



NYFS fosters the study, promotion, and continuation of folklore and folklife of New York's diverse cultures through education, advocacy, support, and outreach.

As 2014 draws to a close, we at the New York Folklore Society thank you for your support and look forward to working with you in the upcoming year. Here are a few highlights from this busy and productive year:

Technical Assistance and Professional Development:

In 2014, NYFS partnered with **SALT** (Schoharie Area Long Term) Recovery and **Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute** (RPI) to train volunteers in the techniques and methodologies of oral history interviewing to capture the narratives of those impacted by flooding caused by Hurricane Irene and those who volunteered to assist in the recovery efforts. NYFS is working to ensure an archival home for recorded narratives, as well as collaborating with **Long Island Traditions** for a national exhibit on responses to climate change and weather events which will open in 2016.

In conjunction with the **Veteran's History Project of the Library of Congress**, the New York Folklore Society conducted a July, 2014, oral history training at **Hogansburg, NY** for volunteer interviewers interested in capturing the experiences of Haudenosaunee Mohawk Veterans.

The annual **New York State Folk Arts Roundtable**, took place in **Troy, NY** in December 2014. A program of the Folk Arts Program of the New York State Council on the Arts, the NYS Folk Arts Roundtable is a professional development program for those involved in folk arts documentation and presentation in the state. This year's Roundtable, held in collaboration with the Sanctuary for Independent Media in Troy, attracted more than forty participants from throughout New York State.

[Make A Year End Donation](#)

Education/Resources:

Voices: The Journal of New York Folklore is back on track, with leadership provided by the editorial/production team of Todd DeGarmo, Patti Mason, Laurie Longfield, and Desktop Solutions. The most current issue will be mailed early in 2015.



www.nyfolklore.org will have a new look in 2015. Stay tuned!

In collaboration with the **Boys and Girls Clubs of Schenectady**, NYFS worked throughout November and December 2014, within Central Park Middle School's Afterschool Program to explore cultural approaches to health. Working with middle-school age youth in a folk arts in education format, NYFS Folklorist, Lisa Overholser, explored health, wellness, and diet from diverse cultural perspectives.

[Learn More](#)

Around the State:

In March 2014, in collaboration with **Catskills' Maple Weekends**, a New York Folklore Society sponsored photographic exhibition on Catskill's dairy heritage by photographer, Benjamin Halpern, debuted at two **Delaware County** locations.



In June 2014, the New York Folklore Society participated in **Schenectady's Kids' Arts Festival**, with support for hands-on demonstrations of henna art and making traditional "bibbi" or fans by members of Utica's Somali Bantu community.

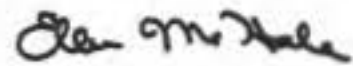
A "**Sundays on the Canal**" Series, in collaboration with the **Town of Brockport**, presented local and regional artists for an Erie Canal themed performance series in July and August 2014. This series was supported by a grant from the Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor, and was presented in collaboration with the Erie Canal Museum, Syracuse.

"**Stable Views: Voices and Stories from the Thoroughbred Racetrack**" opened at **The Folklife Center of Crandall Public Library, Glens Falls**, in August 2014 with viewing through December 2014. This exhibition is funded in part by the Alfred Z Solomon Trust, and the New York Council for the Humanities. It will travel to **Flushing Town Hall, Queens** and **Traditional Arts of Upstate New York, Canton** in 2015. A portable version will also travel to **China** in March 2015, to be viewed at the New York Institute of Technology - Nanjing Campus.

LEARN MORE

Please take a moment to support the New York Folklore Society. Your donations directly support the New York Folklore Society's mission and programs. [Donate Now!](#)

Sincerely,



Ellen McHale, Executive Director
(518) 346-7008

With:

Laurie Longfield, Gallery and Voices Manager
Todd DeGarmo, Voices Acquisition Editor
Patti Mason, Voices Copy-editor and webmaster

And the **NYFS Board of Directors:**

Gabrielle Hamilton, President
Chris Mule', Vice President
Jessica Schein, Treasurer
Ellen Fladger
Gabrielle Berlinger
Tom van Buren
Greg Shatan
Kay Turner
Connie Sullivan-Blum